

REPORT ON INFORMATION COLLECTED CONCERNING APPLICANT

Under section 60835 of title 2 of the California Code of Regulations, the Bureau of State Audits is responsible for collecting information concerning applicants for the Citizens Redistricting Commission that is needed by the Applicant Review Panel to perform its responsibilities. This is a report by Bureau staff in compliance with that responsibility.

Name of Applicant: Edward J. Scheidegger.

Information: In the "Employment History" section of his supplemental application, Applicant reported that he began his career at the California Department of Justice in 1983 as a legislative advocate for the Attorney General. Bureau staff asked Applicant how he obtained that position. Applicant responded that he was hired into the position through a competitive process. He was not appointed to the position by then-Attorney General John Van de Kamp..

In Applicant's first essay answer on his supplemental application regarding why he is interested in serving on the Citizens Redistricting Commission, and in the "Activities" section of the application, Applicant discussed serving as a member of the Attorney General's Commission on Domestic Violence. Staff asked Applicant to provide more information about that experience. Applicant replied that he was appointed to the Commission in 2004 by then-Attorney General Bill Lockyer and his Chief Deputy, Richard Frank. At that time, Applicant was serving as Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Criminal Statistics. The appointment was for one year. As a member of the commission, he traveled throughout California gathering information about the problem of domestic violence and obtaining suggestions for how to better address the problem by holding hearings to obtain testimony from prosecutors, law enforcement officials, other professionals, and victims. After gathering the information, members of the Commission analyzed the information gathered and wrote a report discussing the domestic violence problem and suggesting ways to address it..

Staff research discovered Applicant has been quoted in many newspaper articles, has spoken at several conferences, and written all or part of a number of documents on topics including privacy issues, criminal fraud, and crime records. Examples of what staff found includes "U.S. Senate hearing testimony: Identify Verification for Employment" (May 1995), and "Special Report to the Legislature on Senate Bill 780: California Freedom of Access to Clinic and Church Entrances and Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act" (2003)..

Bureau staff contacted Richard Frank, the author of one of Applicant's letters of recommendation, to confirm the information provided in the letter and receive any additional information that may be relevant. Mr. Frank confirmed the information in the letter and added that Applicant has great people skills and generates respect. Mr. Frank also stated that when Applicant served as a legislative advocate, the Legislature had one house that was predominately Democratic, while the other was predominantly Republican. Mr. Frank noted that Applicant was a very successful advocate because he was well-respected by both houses.

Recommendation: None.

Name and title of person submitting response: Steven Benito Russo, Chief of Investigations

Report Date: September 16, 2010